

# Independent

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QUETTA: Caretaker Provincial Chief Minister Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki enquiring about health of a child during his visit to Children Hospital

## Governor calls for taking sensitive situation of Wadh serious; finding sustainable solution to issue

Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar says tribes can't afford more tribal disputes, hatred; seeks cooperation of religious leaders, political and social elders and other key segments to play role

### Independent Report

QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar has called for taking sensitive situation of Wadh serious and finding sustainable solution to it.

The Governor said that nationalities and tribes settled in Balochistan can't afford more tribal clashes, hatred and disputes, therefore, the religious leaders, social personalities, political elders should play their wholehearted role to resolve the issue in the best interest of province and its people.

The Governor was speaking on occasion of his meeting with chief of Balochistan National Party (BNP), Sardar Akhtar Mengal whom he met at his residence in Tehsil Wadh, Khuzdar on Sunday.

The Governor visited Wadh especially to meet the BNP chief and discussed with him the situation of Wadh, latest political situation of the province and other matters of mutual interests.

The Governor was concerned about the situation of Wadh saying that the situation is worsening in Wadh with every passing day.

He pointed out that the routine business has been badly affected at the local level while the children and women are facing mental agony.

Moreover, students and patients are also suffering due to the situation in Wadh, he maintained.

He said that if the steps were not taken to improve the situation in Wadh, then it may intensify the situation in Balochistan.

The Governor said that it is responsibility of the government to protect life and property of the masses.

## CM invites "angry" Balochs to join national mainstream; ready to prepare effective policy for them

Mir Ali Mardan Domki says all political parties to be taken into confidence by convening consultation meeting once ECP announces general election date; reiterates interim gov't's resolve to provide conducive environment for polls

### Independent Report

QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has once again invited the "angry" Balochs to come and join national mainstream. He said that he once again invites "angry" Baloch to come and join national mainstream and we are ready to prepare an effective for them (angry Balochs)."

The caretaker Chief Minister said that all security agencies are working with determination to fully restore peace and maintain government's writ in the province. He said that it is

our utmost endeavour to establish conducive environment for the general elections as it is the mandate of interim government to conduct free and fair elections in peaceful environment.

He said that the meeting of all political parties would be called for consultation once the Election Commission of Pakistan announced the date of general elections. He asserted that the provincial government would extend wholehearted assistance to the ECP for conducting free and fair elections.

The caretaker Chief Minister was speaking in a programme of state-run TV

(PTV) Quetta on Sunday.

Mir Ali Mardan Domki spoke at length about the priorities of the provincial government, problems being faced, government steps being taken to address them, talks with the "angry" Balochs and other issues. The caretaker Chief Minister maintained that around 75 percent portion of the province's budget is spent on the non-development expenditures, salaries and pensions while only 25 percent budget is allocated for the development purposes. Even this 25 percent budget is also not utilized accurately, adding he regretfully pointed out.

As a result the general public is still deprived of the basic amenities like education, health and clean drinking water in the province, he added.

Referring the anti-smuggling initiatives, the caretaker Chief Minister said that wholehearted action is continued against the smuggling in collaboration with the federal government departments.

He said that a very few people are associated with the smuggling, while big groups have become billionaire through smuggling.

However, prevention of smuggling is very im-

portant, the caretaker Chief Minister asserted.

He said that we have issued directives to the administrative secretaries to ensure transparency in recruitment process. He said that it is our utmost endeavour not to deprive anyone of one's due right and every deserving person gets one's right. Mr. Domki said that we would do our best to bring positive reforms in the public service delivery institutions in the time we have. It would be better if the coming government may continue the process of reforms, otherwise, it would be answerable to the people.

## Elections will be held in year, army nothing to do with elections: PM

NEW YORK (Online): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar has said that the elections will be held in the new year itself, the army has nothing to do with the general elections.

General elections can be held without Chairman PTI and his jailed associates involved in illegal activities.

In an interview to the American news agency, Anwarul Haq Kakar said that fair elections can be held even without the chairman PTI and hundreds of workers of his party who are in jail for involvement in vandalism and illegal activities.

Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar said that the elections will be held in the new year itself, while the military intervention in the elections

is not true, the army has nothing to do with the general elections.

The Caretaker Prime Minister said that the Election Commission is responsible for conducting the voting while the current head of the Election Commission is appointed by the Chairman PTI, so why would he oppose him?

He also said that no personal vendetta is being taken from anyone, action will be taken according to law, be it Chairman PTI or any other politician wants supremacy of law.

Earlier, in an interview to American TVCNN, Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar said that the elections are sure to be held on time and those who influence the election will be dealt with according to the law.



WADH: Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar meeting with President Balochistan National Party Sardar Akhtar Jan Mengal at his residence

## Mercury drops to 10 degree Celsius in Quetta

QUETTA (INP): Blowing cold winds in Quetta and other areas of Balochistan on Sunday morning, announcing about upcoming winter in the region.

Temperatures going down in the morning and evening times in Quetta, Balochistan's capital city, as people have started keeping fans off.

The Met Office recorded minimum temperature in Quetta 10 degree Celsius in the morning today, while the maximum temperature remained 27 degree Celsius.

## SC orders to compile list of conflicting decisions of high courts

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Supreme Court of Pakistan has ordered to compile lists of conflicting decisions of the High Courts.

The Registrar Office of the SC has issued an important circular in the matter of discrepancies in the judgments of the five high courts and the circular has asked to prepare lists of judgments based on discrepancies.

According to the circular, appeals against the decisions of the high courts are pending in the SC. A number of inconsistencies have been identified in the challenged decisions of the high courts.

## One dead as two vehicles collide in Quetta

QUETTA (INP): A man was killed after two vehicles collided with each other on Quetta's Airport Road on Sunday, police said.

Naimat Ullah lost his life in the fatal accident. The body was shifted to a state hospital for legal formalities.

## Israel ties depend on national, Palestinian interests: FM

Jilani responds to Israeli FM's claims that up to 7 Muslim countries would make peace with Israel following Saudi deal

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan's decision to recognise Israel will be determined by its national interests and those of Palestinians, according to Caretaker Foreign Minister Jalil Abbas Jilani, who also said he didn't meet his Israeli counterpart on the sidelines of UN General Assembly session in New York.

Jilani was responding to claims by the Israeli Foreign Minister that 6 or 7 Muslim countries would make peace with the Jewish State if Saudi Arabia-Israel deal goes through. Foreign Minister Eli Cohen told Israel's KAN News on Friday that up to seven more Muslim countries could make peace with Israel if the Jewish State signs a peace agreement with Saudi Arabia.

Speaking to the outlet immediately following Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's speech at the United Nations General Assembly, in which he touted a "new Middle East" where Israel and Saudi Arabia enjoyed diplomatic ties, Cohen said that "peace with Saudi Arabia means peace with the greater Muslim world." Jilani, however, said he didn't meet his Israeli counterpart.

## 20 injured as two trains collide near Ferozewala

FEROZEWALA (INP): At least 20 passengers have been injured as a result of a horrific collision between two trains near Ferozewala.

According to details, the Mianwali Express collided with a goods train stationed at Qila Sattar Shah station in the Ferozewala area, as a result of which 20 passengers were injured.



SHEIKHPURA: A view collision between Mianwali Express with goods train near Qila Sattar Shah railway station

## CS directs to complete QDP within stipulated time

### Independent Report

QUETTA: The Chief Secretary Balochistan, Shaklee Qadir Khan has directed the concerned high ups to complete all the development projects of Quetta Development Package within the stipulated time. The Chief Secretary said that Quetta development Package is going to be a milestone for development of Quetta city as these projects are very important to facilitate the people. The Chief Secretary was on his visit to Quetta

city for inspection of different development projects being executed under the Quetta Package, here on Sunday. The Commissioner Quetta, Muhammad Hamza Shafiqat and Deputy Commissioner Quetta, Saad were also accompanied with the Chief Secretary.

The Chief Secretary inspected the projects including Sabzal road, Sariab road, Eastern and Western bypass, Haza Ranji bus terminal and water treatment plant.



QUETTA: Ameer Jamaat-e-Islami Sirajul Haq addressing a protest gathering against the hike electricity and petrol prices in front of Governor House

"Fighting for common men's rights and problems":

## Ameer JI demands of rulers to take back increase in prices of petrol, electricity immediately

Sirajul Haq says we want such Pakistan, which is free of corruption, poverty, ignorance and injustice; vows to continue struggle till the end

### Independent Report

QUETTA: The central Ameer of Jama'at-e-Islami, Sirajul Haq has put forth immediate demand to the government to take back increase made in the prices of petrol and petroleum products and electricity tariffs in the country, otherwise, the JI's struggle would remain continued in future. He asserted that we want such Pakistan which is free of corruption, pov-

erty, ignorance, injustice and other evils.

He said that when there is no price-hike in the countries around us including India, Iran, Nepal and Afghanistan, then why it (inflation) is in Pakistan and why the people are suffering from it.

He also said that he respects all those who follow and obey the law and constitution of the country.

He lamented that the inflation has made the life

of people of the country miserable and it has become very difficult for them to make their both ends meet. He also described the inflation as artificial and bogus which he vehemently rejected.

This and similar other views were expressed by the JI Ameer while addressing protest sit-in against the inflation here at the Jaffar Khan Jamali road near Governor House on Sunday evening.

## All political parties should have freedom to contest elections: Solangi

KARACHI (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi said on Sunday that all political parties should have full freedom to contest elections. In his speech at Radio Pakistan Karachi, he said it was clear in the Constitution that the system of the coun-

try of the caretaker government to provide a conducive environment for transparent elections, Murtaza Solangi maintained. He said that the government was working for the betterment of Radio Pakistan and that its broadcast should be digital.

Murtaza Solangi said



try will be run by elected representatives. "State media should not support or oppose any political party," Murtaza Solangi said.

The minister issued directives to the official media to give fair coverage to the registered political parties. It was the responsibility

he would try to solve radio problems under legal and constitutional powers. He assured that he would use his available time for the solution of problems. The minister said that Radio Pakistan should meet the demands of the modern age and this was his dream.

## Parents appealed to vaccinate children against diseases

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Health Dr. Nadeem Jan on Sunday appealed to parents to get their children vaccinated against various deadly diseases. In a video message about immunization of children, the minister said that effective measures are being taken to ensure 100% immunization

coverage. He said that the ministry of Health is determined to ensure universal health coverage.

Dr Nadeem Jan said, "Innocent children are our future and they need regular medical care particularly their safety against various diseases through regular vaccination."



QUETTA: Balochistan Chief Secretary Shaklee Qadir Khan inspecting ongoing projects under Quetta Development Package





# 25 SEP. NATIONAL NEWSPAPER READERSHIP DAY



M E S S A G E S



**Dr. Arif Alvi**  
President Islamic Republic of Pakistan

I extend my sincere congratulations to all newspaper readers and the All-Pakistan Newspapers Society (APNS) on the occasion of 'National Newspaper Readership Day'. Reading newspapers has a greater educative value as they provide us knowledge and information about the social, economic, and political issues as well as sports, culture and entertainment. They educate the readers about the developments taking place in the national and international arena and broaden the mental horizon of the readers. Besides, newspapers play important role in shaping public opinion and influencing and guiding the decision-makers by providing their input and insight.

It is an established fact that newspapers are effective means of communication and can change perceptions and opinions of the society. So, they should play their role in reformation of society by bringing positive changes and behavioral improvement. The world is facing multiple economic and social challenges, including health issues and the scourge of fake news. In order to address these challenges, newspapers need to educate the readers and raise awareness among them about the social issues such as the growing population, women's rights of inheritance and their socio-economic empowerment, apart from guiding the people about breast cancer and mental health and disability issues. Additionally, the society is facing the dilemma of moral and ethical degradation and it is the responsibility of all means of communication to promote good values, tolerance, mutual respect, brotherhood and unity among the people.

In today's world, fake news is the greatest challenge being faced by the world and it requires the collective efforts of all segments of the society, including media, scholars, writers and religious leaders to discourage the menace of fake news. Furthermore, the journalistic ethics demands to avoid biased reporting and publish news stories with truthfulness, accuracy and impartiality. We must preserve this important source of information that keeps us informed about the important events and developments taking place across the globe.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the All-Pakistan Newspapers Society (APNS) for their commitment to celebrating National Newspaper Readership Day. I am confident that this initiative will significantly contribute to nurturing the habit of reading among our people, empowering them with the knowledge and insight to make informed decisions for a better future.



**Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar**  
Caretaker Prime Minister

Today, we celebrate the "National Newspaper Readership Day" to recognize the importance and the utility of reading newspapers as a reliable source of news and information. Newspapers have long been a cornerstone of democracy, which provides us with valuable information, diverse perspectives, and a platform for public discourse.

Despite the growth of electronic and digital media, newspapers still play a significant role in creating awareness and educating the people about various economic and social issues. Currently, the world is facing the challenge of fake news. The role of newspapers has become even more important to discourage the spread of fake news. By objective reporting and adhering to the principles of responsible, impartial, truthful, and accountable journalism, newspapers are the best tool to fight disinformation and fake news.

Newspapers also provide an in-depth analyses, investigative reporting, and thought-provoking opinion pieces that contribute to a reasonable understanding of the world around us. The news stories are filed after proper research that are once more filtered through a rigorous editorial check for accuracy before publication. This feature distinguishes newspapers and make the print medium more credible source of information.

On this special day, I would like to express my gratitude to all the journalists, editors, and newspaper staff who work tirelessly to bring us the news every day. Their dedication to the pursuit of truth and their commitment to upholding the principles of journalism are commendable.

I encourage my fellow citizens to support the newspaper industry through subscription to newspapers. Through this gesture, we would not only gain access to reliable sources of information but would also contribute to the sustainability of this important institution of our society.

I deeply appreciate the remarkable initiative of the All Pakistan Newspaper Society to celebrate 25 September as the National Newspaper Readership day.



**Murtaza Solangi**  
Caretaker Minister of Information & Broadcasting

I feel honoured to congratulate the All Pakistan Newspapers Society (APNS) on declaring 25th September as the National Newspaper Readership Day which is certainly indicative of the priority that the industry accords to the newspaper readership. I am of the opinion that in the era of fake news and after the advent of social media, the newspaper readership has attained even more importance for authentic reporting. If put in comparison with other media of information, the print media still possesses unequivocal significance in terms of the veracity of information and news.

With the advent of social media, it was speculated that newspapers would become obsolete and redundant. However, with the dissemination of fake news and misinformation, newspapers became more important and relevant than ever, because the print media is based on facts, and the newspapers still have the system of editorial control to check fake news.

In addition to fake news and the storming of social media, the electronic media, too, is scrambling for breaking news and complaints of providing and promoting fake news with little factuality. Therefore, I believe that the habit of newspaper reading should be instilled in our people once again. Taking recourse to history, the newspaper echoed the voice of our people that imbued the spirit of freedom and independence which eventually culminated in the establishment of Pakistan in 1947. Those newspapers were at the forefront to fight for our independence and helped to unite the nation towards the single aim of achieving our separate homeland. Today, I take pride in stating that our newspapers have grown and developed themselves over the years, and can stand any competition whatsoever, with any international newspapers across the globe.

On behalf of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, I appreciate the efforts of the APNS for observing the National Newspaper Readership Day in acquainting the nation with the significance of newspaper reading. There is no gainsaying that the newspapers are a source of reliable and authentic information in an era of massive proliferation of fake news and it is encouraging to see that the newspapers have upheld their authenticity, credibility, and reliability, despite the advent of digital media. Moreover, the newspapers also helped in effectively putting Pakistan's stance across the globe. Lastly, I reiterate the Government's resolve to promote freedom of expression and urge the print media fraternity to join hands with the Government to develop an educated and enlightened nation.



**Mohsin Naqvi**  
Caretaker Chief Minister of Punjab

Newspapers are the most authentic source of accurate information, and therefore have been, are, and will remain an important part of every society. The importance of newspapers in raising public awareness is unquestionable.

Newspapers have played a pivotal role in every society in promoting free democratic values. In the Pakistan Movement, newspapers played a crucial role in raising awareness among the people of the importance of a separate homeland.

In developed societies, newspapers are still printed and sold with great enthusiasm. The habit of reading newspapers has declined in the digital age, but it cannot be completely eradicated. Newspapers provide easy and affordable access to accurate and authentic information. Despite the rise of electronic and digital media, newspapers remain a great source of information for readers.

By reading newspapers, one can gain awareness of various economic and social issues. Reading newspapers also expands the reader's exposure to language and vocabulary.

Newspapers are the most authentic source of accurate information, therefore newspapers were, are and will remain an important part of every society. The importance of newspapers for raising public awareness is unquestionable. Newspapers have played an unforgettable role in every society for the promotion of free democratic values. In Pakistan movement, newspapers played an important role in raising awareness of the importance of a separate homeland among the people. In developed societies, newspapers are still being printed and sold with full gusto. The habit of newspaper reading, has diminished in the digital age, but it cannot be eradicated by any means. Newspapers provide easy and affordable access to accurate and authentic information. Despite electronic and digital media, newspapers are still a great source of information for readers. By studying newspapers one gets awareness of various economic and social issues. The reader's access to the language and vocabulary is also widened by reading newspapers.



**Justice (Retd.) Maqbool Baqar**  
Caretaker Chief Minister Sindh

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the All Pakistan Newspapers Society (APNS) for celebrating National Newspaper Readership Day, highlighting the importance of newspaper readership in the country. National Newspaper Readership Day is an extremely relevant day to establish and promote the habit of reading in Pakistan. In this digital age and time, one cannot deny the importance of newspapers as they provide us with news with facts and information with sources. The Government of Sindh wholeheartedly supports the National Newspaper Readership Day and urges the entire nation to develop a habit of reading newspapers and checking facts before falling prey to fake news and rumors. Let's just join hands for this cause of combatting fake news. We should also instill the habit of reading newspapers in our children as well so that they grow up to become responsible and socially aware citizens of Pakistan. With this, I would like to once again appreciate the step taken by APNS and acknowledge their efforts for the said cause. Here's wishing to celebrate National Newspaper Readership Day for years and years to come.



**Muhammad Azam Khan**  
Caretaker Chief Minister KP

It is a shatter of pleasure that the All Pakistan Newspapers Society (APNS) has declared 25th September as "National Newspaper Readership Day"; and has been celebrating the day since 2019 for which it deserves appreciation.

The initiative will help highlight the importance of newspaper readership, and promote the habit of reading in the country which is, unfortunately, declining due to the mushroom growth of social and digital media. Social and digital media have changed the very dynamics of communication and dissemination of information, resulting in manipulated and out-of-context messages, news, and information, causing fears, conflicts, and controversies.

In view of the above facts, the relevance of Print Media can hardly be underestimated. The new media might have brought about revolution, but the Print Media still remains the most credible and authentic source of information when it comes to disseminating news and information. Promotion of reading habits among citizens will effectively, combat the challenges posed by the unchecked onslaught of fake news.

The Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa firmly believes in the fundamental and constitutional right of freedom of the press and considers an independent and free media absolutely imperative for a developed and civilized society.

We also believe that without freedom of the press and ensuring people's right to know, our cherished goal of a strong and democratic Pakistan cannot be materialized.

I appreciate the initiative of the APNS, and I am confident that celebrating this day would encourage more and more people to opt for reading and have a shared understanding of issues of national importance.



**Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki**  
Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan

We are living in a dynamic world, which is, at the pinnacle of the technological advancement where mobile phone has replaced number of things that used to be integral part of everyone's daily life.

In addition to affecting variety of other things, the latest technological innovations have caused a dramatic fall in newspaper readership, one of life's essential necessities.

It has become more challenging to distinguish between true, credible and factual reporting and misinformation falsehood with the introduction of new trends in digital media.

The rapid development of social media and technology, particularly widely available mobile phone technology, unfortunately, has led to a significant fall in newspaper readership.

The phoney and negligent social media platforms have filled the void left by the decline in newspaper readership and accurate reporting of events, wreaking havoc on society. The general public needed to be made acutely aware of the sensitive nature of the problems that were putting the entire society in danger.

The All Pakistan Newspapers Society deserves praise for picking up the reins and embarking on a protracted campaign to revive the once-common practise of newspaper reading.

I appreciate the efforts of APNS for the revival to the newspaper readership habits. However, it is our collective responsibility that we need to encourage and educate our people about developing reading habits as it contributes greatly towards the intellectual development of the nation.

I commend APNS for honouring "National Newspaper Readership Day" in order to educate the public about the value of reading newspapers on behalf of the Balochistan government. Newspapers are unquestionably a source of trustworthy and accurate information in a time when fake news is widely disseminated.

To mark the occasion, I call upon every segment of the society to contribute to APNS's noble cause and help spread the habit of reading newspapers.

Instead of relying on phoney and irresponsible news, let's turn to real, thoroughly researched, and well-informed content.

I sincerely hope that our serious efforts to revive newspaper reading habits would put an end to the fierce rivalry of false information and fake news.

## Crucial Role of Newspapers in Combating Fake News & Upholding Democracy

Article 19 of the Constitution of Pakistan stands as a beacon of hope, guaranteeing fundamental freedoms that underpin a thriving democracy. It highlights the rights to freedom of speech, expression, and a free press, safeguarding these rights against reasonable restrictions imposed by the law. This provision constitutes the bedrock upon which the democratic edifice of Pakistan stands, allowing its citizens to be well-informed and active participants in the nation's growth.

Article 19-A of the constitution further strengthens the right to information. It affirms that every citizen shall have the right to access information on all matters of public importance, subject to regulation and reasonable restrictions imposed by the law. Together, these constitutional provisions underscore the critical role of newspapers and journalism in a democratic society.

The cornerstone of a robust and vibrant democracy lies in the unfettered freedom of expression and a free press. Independent newspapers with unwavering editorial policies and steadfast adherence to journalistic ethics play an indispensable role in strengthening the democratic fabric of any nation. The significance of newspapers has become even more prominent in the face of the recent proliferation of digital media platforms and social networking

sites, many of which grapple with issues of credibility, truthfulness, and relevance in the dissemination of news and information.

Newspapers, in particular, occupy a unique and irreplaceable space within a democratic system. They serve as catalysts for constructive debate, offering a platform for diverse segments of society to voice their opinions on matters of political, economic, religious, social, and other policy concerns. In a media landscape comprising television, radio, print, and online sources, newspapers have established themselves as paragons of accurate and robust reporting, independence, and accountability.

Intergraf, a prominent European printing industry association, underscores the democratic importance of printed newspapers within the European Union. Printed newspapers reach an estimated 30% of people in the EU-27, encompassing more than 130 million individuals. This outreach ensures the participation and informed decision-making of all citizens in public debates and elections, preserving their right to choose how they consume news and information.

In a democracy, principles such as the rule of law, citizens' rights, fair and free elections, and the protection of individual rights can only be upheld and safeguarded through a free press. Newspapers also serve as

educators for voters, providing them insights into politics, parties, politicians, and their policies so the citizens can make well-informed and well-thought decisions. This becomes even more important in view of our own general elections scheduled for January 2024.

Journalists employed by newspapers possess a formidable array of skills, including research acumen and critical thinking. The best journalists know which questions to ask, which leads to pursue, and how to rigorously fact-check their findings. Another pivotal role of a free press is to serve as a watchdog over governments and powerful institutions, exposing instances of corruption and violations of human rights a duty that is indispensable for the health of democracy.

The enduring confidence expressed by readers in the factual content of newspapers underscores their continued relevance, even in the digital age.

According to the Eurobarometer survey on fake news and disinformation, the traditional media including print, television and radio remains the most trusted source of news at 60%+ for each media. In contrast, online sources of news are the least trusted at 26%.

In an age dominated by social media, where misinformation and sensationalism often run rampant, newspapers stand as bastions of authenticity, well-researched reporting, and fact-

based journalism. They adhere to rigorous editorial standards and invest in thorough investigations, ensuring that the stories they publish are backed by verifiable facts and statistics. This commitment to accuracy and reliability not only bolsters democracy by providing citizens with trustworthy information but also contributes to the development of a more informed and responsible society. In the battle against fake news, newspapers remain a beacon of truth, serving as a vital counterbalance to the unchecked spread of misinformation on social media platforms.

Research conducted over the last four years by the European E-Read on the impact of digitization on reading practices, known as the Stavanger Declaration, suggests that detailed and research-based stories in newspapers offer superior benefits for comprehension,

concentration, and critical thinking compared to reading from screens. The transition from paper to digital is not neutral; comprehension and concentration are often stronger when reading from paper, particularly when time constraints apply.

Furthermore, a meta-study involving 54 studies with over 170,000 participants indicates that comprehension of long-form informational text is consistently more effective when read on paper than on screens. Reading newspapers, whether in print or digitally, has far-reaching effects beyond mere information consumption, including fostering mental focus, patience, discipline, enhancing linguistic knowledge, and contributing to personal well-being.

Newspapers, as the oldest mass communication medium, have the unparalleled ability to reach a wide audience, regard-

less of income or educational background. They have traditionally served as invaluable sources of information about local, regional, national, and international events. Beyond merely presenting facts, newspapers excel at interpreting and explaining complex issues, offering readers a nuanced understanding of various topics.

Newspapers also play a vital role in raising public awareness. They have been instrumental in educating the masses on health, commerce, education, social responsibilities, public safety laws, environmental concerns, hygiene, labor rights, disaster management, and civic issues. Newspapers have consistently defended citizens' rights, especially during times of military dictatorship or civilian government challenges.

Beyond their role in information dissemination, newspapers facilitate social activities, such as matrimonial and personal advertisements, becoming an indispensable part of daily life. Classified advertisements, community announcements, and communal notices constitute significant components of newspaper content. Features on sports, education, campus news, cultural events, music, dance, drama, literature, and fine arts enrich the reading experience, offering comprehensive insights into the happenings in the community.

Modern newspapers allocate

space for readers to voice their opinions through letters to the editor sections. This should be considered as the initial example of citizens journalism that allows readers to express their grievances or appreciation concerning reports or incidents within society. Additionally, newspapers inform readers about political activities, new laws, rules, and regulations that impact society.

For students, reading newspapers is particularly advantageous. It exposes them to a wide range of topics, enhances their oratory skills, and fosters active participation in speeches, debates, and conversations. Daily newspaper reading not only broadens students' understanding but also improves their vocabulary and familiarity with various writing styles and reporting techniques, which they may not find through social media news formats.

Given the pivotal role newspapers play in fostering an informed citizenry and preserving democratic values, it is imperative that the government extends its support to print industry by providing special grants, concession on printing paper and material, reasonable advertisements as compared to other communication media as it is the easiest, most accessible and less cost medium for creating awareness in the masses besides providing education, information and entertainment to the citizens.



## UNGA Session Caretaker PM vociferously spells out Pakistan's views on regional, global perspectives, generating wider

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwar-ul-Haq Karkar has emphatically conveyed Pakistan's views on key regional and global issues, during his recently concluded five-day visit to New York, where he addressed the 78th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, besides holding sidelines meetings with the world leaders. Contrary to the impression created by a section of media regarding the prime minister's visit, the successfully marked visit drew immense interest among the world leaders and governments representatives who harken

to the prime minister's forthright viewpoints which were broadly highlighted by the international media.

The visit was also marked with prominence amidst Canadian prime minister announcing Indian state's role behind a gruesome murder of Khalistan Sikh leader in Canada.

In New York, PM Kakar told the world leaders about 'India's rogue behaviour' which vindicated Pakistan's persistent stance about alarming rise of extremists ruling saffron junta of RSS-inspired BJP whose religious fanatics are not only hell bent upon perse-

cuting the minorities in India, but also the growing Hindu supremacist trend poses an existential threat to the regional and global peace.

The prime minister's views were acknowledged by his diverse audience as the Western countries voiced their concerns over the Indian state sponsored murder of Hardeep Singh Nijjar, a Sikh leader and Canadian citizen after the irrefutable evidences keep emerging. The prime minister mentioned Kashmir, Islamophobia, financial inequality, Covid triggered inflation, climate change, peace in Afghanistan, UN

role and reforms, and terrorism issues, in his address to the UNGA session. Being the first interim prime minister to represent Pakistan at the world body, Kakar held important discussions with Iranian President, UN Secretary General, Chinese Vice President, President of Uzbekistan and heads of different financial institutions on the sidelines of the UNGA 78. In a bilateral meeting with President of Iran Ebrahim Raisi, the caretaker prime minister reaffirmed Pakistan's strong commitment to further strengthen and deepen ties with the brotherly country.



Minister of National Defence Turkiye, Defence Minister of Pakistan Lt. Gen (ret'd) Anwar Ali Hyder and Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi in a group photo alongwith commissioning crew onboard newly commissioned PNS BABUR.



QUETTA: Caretaker Health Minister Dr. Amir Muhammad Khan Jogezezi listening problems of patients during his visit to BMC hospital.

## Caretaker CM directs to expand medical services of BIC HQ for making it exemplary center

### Independent Report

QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Mir Ali Mardan Domki has directed to the concerned authorities to expand the medical services of Balochistan Institute of Child Healthcare Quetta (BIC HQ) for making it an exemplary institution of children diseases.

The Chief Minister was speaking on occasion of the surprise visit to BIC HQ on Sunday.

He reviewed the medical treatment facilities avail-

able at the Institute. Also present on the occasion were Secretary Health, Asfandyar Yar Kakar and Chief Executive Officer of BIC HQ, Habibullah Babar besides other concerned.

It was informed to the Chief Minister that new CT scan machine has been purchased while the whole hospital has been solarized.

With this, the amount otherwise spent on account of the utility bills would be utilized for improving medical services at the institute.

Moreover, new block is also in last stages of completion costing Rs. 1.5 billion. The work on new block would be completed by end of October this year, it was informed further.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister directed to install the CT scan in the hospital immediately.

The Chief Minister expressed satisfaction over the pace of work of under construction block besides making the energy system solarized in the hospital.

## NAB & Pakistan cannot go together, Zardari's position is correct

LONDON (Online): Muslim League (N) leader Malik Ahmed Khan has said that NAB and Pakistan cannot go together.

This position of Asif Zardari is correct, Talking to the media in London, PML-N leader Malik Ahmed Khan said that the NAB law is a cause of disaster for Pakistan.

He is friendly with Caretaker Prime Minister

Anwar Haq Kakar, but did not meet him during his stay at the hotel.

He came to London for personal work. He said that NAB's decision is not against politicians but against Pakistan.

Civil servants are not ready to sign any file with this law of NAB.

Shahid Khaqan Abbasi was also asked to abolish this law through Parliament.

## Gift of Umrah ticket to Pak artist who painted portrait of Saudi Prince

LAHORE (Online): Ambassador of Saudi Arabia to Pakistan, Nawaf bin Saeed Al-Maliki, has gifted a ticket for Umrah to Pakistani artist Omar Jaral, who created the portrait of Crown Prince Muhammad bin Salman.

According to Arab media report, 33-year-old Omar Jaral suffers from cerebral palsy (CP) and uses a computer to communicate.

Saudi Ambassador Nawaf bin Saeed Al-Maliki met Omar Jaral in Lahore at an event organized on the occasion of the 93rd National Day of Saudi Arabia.

## October 21 won't be a good day, Faisal Vawda warns Nawaz Sharif

ISLAMABAD (INP): Senior politician Faisal Vawda while warning Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) supremo and former prime minister Nawaz Sharif that October 21 will not be a good day for him said that the country cannot progress unless 18 political leaders are punished.

Speaking in a private TV channel program, he said he is the one who will decide which party to join, emphasizing that no party will make that choice for him. Rejecting the rumors that he had sought governorship position, he said that there is misinformation circulating about him.

Vawda clarified that he is currently not affiliating with any political party and asserted that he will make

his political decisions independently, based on his own understanding and assessment of the situation.

Expressing his views on the political landscape, he acknowledged interim Prime Minister Anwarul Haq Kakar as a prominent figure and mentioned that current political developments are of a temporary nature, with the upcoming government expected to serve for a duration ranging from 12 to 17 months, primarily influenced by the wishes of the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM).

Termining the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) as homeopathic, he said that the previous elections were not transparent, and the next elections will not be transparent either.

## First snowfall in Neelum Valley ushers in snap winter feel

MUZAFFARABAD (INP): The Neelum Valley has received the first snowfall of the year.

Ratti Gali Lake, Baboon Valley and Shouner Lake have received snowfall. The first snowfall has ushered in winter in the upper areas of Neelum Valley.

Tourists in large numbers were seen at Ratti Gali Lake, Baboon Valley, Chitta Katha Lake, and Patlian Lake.

The weather became pleasant as different cities of Punjab including Lahore received light rain today.

## Pak Navy commissions first MILGEM Ship PNS BABUR

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Pakistan Navy has commissioned the first MILGEM Ship PNS BABUR at the commissioning ceremony held at Istanbul Naval Shipyard, Turkey. The event was graced by the Minister of National Defence Turkiye Yasar Güler and Defence Minister of Pakistan Lieutenant General @ Anwar Ali Hyder as chief guests flanked by Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi, a Pakistan Navy news release said on Sunday. Addressing on the occasion, Turkish Defence

Minister termed the brotherly Pakistan-Turkiye relations as exemplary and acknowledged the potential for further collaboration in the field of defence production. He lauded the efforts and remarkable work done by Istanbul Naval Shipyard and ASFAT (Turkish Firm). He also thanked the Government of Pakistan and Pakistan Navy for exceptional support during the recent devastating earthquakes at Turkiye.

During his address, the Defence Minister of Pakistan admired the collaboration of the Ministry of Defence Production Pakistan,

Ministry of National Defence of Turkiye, ASFAT and Pakistan Navy for the synergized efforts to make the project a success and congratulated all teams on the successful commissioning of 1st MILGEM Ship.

He added that the relationship between Pakistan and Turkiye is unique because of deep rooted historical ties between the two brotherly countries, hence cooperation shall continue in future as well. Speaking on the occasion, Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi underlined that PN MILGEM Ships fitted with state-of-the-art.



KARACHI: Sindh Governor Kamran Khan Tessori presenting the shield to the caretaker Federal Minister for Finance and Economic Affairs Shamshad Akhtar at the Governor House.

## UNDP holds workshop with media to foster awareness in combating HIV/AIDS stigma

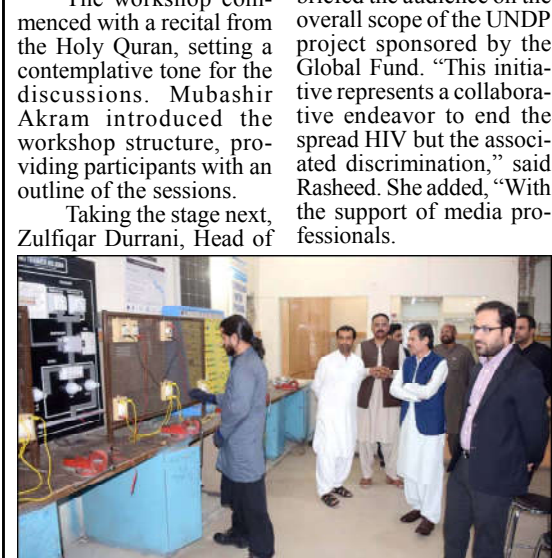
### Independent Report

QUETTA: Intending to combat the prevailing stigma surrounding HIV/AIDS, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) organized a workshop for media professionals in Quetta. The initiative is part of UNDP's larger drive to foster accurate and sensitive reporting on the subject, contributing to broader awareness and understanding within the community. This was the fifth engagement with the national-level media, and UNDP has earlier held workshops for media in Islamabad, Peshawar, Lahore, and Karachi.

The workshop commenced with a recital from the Holy Quran, setting a contemplative tone for the discussions. Mubashir Akram introduced the workshop structure, providing participants with an outline of the sessions.

Taking the stage next, Zulfiqar Durrani, Head of

Office, UNDP Balochistan, provided insights about the HIV prevention project with AIDS control program. "Our efforts in Balochistan are geared towards not just controlling the spread of HIV/AIDS, but also altering the narrative surrounding the condition," he stated. Durrani also stressed the importance of community engagement and acknowledged the media's role in disseminating correct information, saying, "Every story that is told right brings us one step closer to a stigma-free society." Summayyah Rasheed, Program Officer Stigma and Discrimination, briefed the audience on the overall scope of the UNDP project sponsored by the Global Fund. "This initiative represents a collaborative endeavor to end the spread HIV but the associated discrimination," said Rasheed. She added, "With the support of media professionals,



QUETTA: DG new Tech Hussain Magasi is inspecting the verification test of skilled persons who are going to Saudi Arabia.

## Martyred soldier laid to rest with military honour

RAWALPINDI (APP): The funeral prayers of, Shaheed, Sepoy Shakeel Shafiq who embraced martyrdom a day earlier during an intelligence-based operation against the

Khanewal district. The martyr was buried with full military honours, an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release said.

Military and civil of-



terrorists in Mir Ali area of North Waziristan, were offered on Sunday in his native village Kabirwala of

## PPP, Senate once again face off secretariat

ISLAMABAD (Online): Chairman Sadiq Sanjrani has refused to call the meeting on the second requisition of the People's Party because the People's Party did not succeed in completing the required 25 members for the meeting and the members of the other parties signed the requisition has now taken it back.

The PPP and the Senate Secretariat have come face to face again on the issue of convening the Senate meeting on the requisition of the People's Party

because the requisition is not signed by the required members.

For this reason, the Chairman Senate Sadiq Sanjrani is also reluctant to call the meeting.

On the other hand, the position of the Senate Secretariat is that the members of other parties included in the re-submitted requisition have withdrawn, including Sadia Abbasi, Abida Azim, Hidayatullah, Muhammad Qasim and Omar Farooq.

He has withdrawn his name from the requisition.

## Accountability Court restores 22 NAB references

RAWALPINDI (INP): The Rawalpindi Accountability Court has restored 22 NAB references, which will be heard on Monday, September 25, in compliance with the Supreme Court's order declaring the NAB amendments null and void.

The accused of all the references have been summoned to the court after issuing notices. The NAB prosecutor said that the accused who finished the case from jail will be sent to Adiala jail again. Accused of 8 cases will be charged. All mudarabah, fake housing

reference and corruption cases were restored.

Accountability Court Judge Raja Qamar Zaman accepted the request to reopen the references. Summoning notices to the accused in all 22 references are being delivered to the respective police stations today. The court ordered that the summon notices should also be made to comply with the accused today. The court has also called for additional police force on the occasion of the hearing of 22 references reopened on Monday, September 25.

## Tiger strays into Parachinar bazaar, injures two

PARACHINAR (INP): Two people were injured after a tiger attacked them at a bazaar in Parachinar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) on Sunday morning.

However, the shopkeepers managed to cage the animal in a shop. According to District Forest Officer Wildlife Munshif Ali, the injured people were shifted to Parachinar Hospital. Soon after the incident, a team of the Wildlife Department reached.



KHALIQABAD: Provincial Advisor for Irrigation Mir Danish Lango being briefed about machinery during his visit to Khaliqabad Hospital.

## Pakistan's envoy presents credentials to Queen of Denmark

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan's Ambassador to Denmark Shoaib Sarwar has presented his credentials to Her Majesty Queen of Denmark, Margrethe 2 on Friday (September 22) in Copenhagen. Ambassador Sarwar, before his appointment as Ambassador to Denmark, served at Prime Minister's Office, Islamabad as Joint Secretary, a press release received here on Sunday said. During his diplomatic career, Shoaib Sarwar has earlier served in Canada, Netherlands and USA. He holds BA(Hons) from University of Kent in United Kingdom and MBA from New York University, USA

## GoB takes notice of police cops torture on a citizen

QUETTA: The Government of Balochistan has taken notice of the torture on a citizen by police personnel in Shahbaz Town area on Sunday.

According to an official hand out issued here, the provincial government has ordered to the Inspector General of Police to conduct an inquiry into the matter and take action against those involved in the torture.

He said that the differences between police and public may increase with such untoward incidents, however, the government would not let this happen because of mistake of any personal. It may be mentioned here that the police along with QESCO had raided Shahbaz town area of Quetta on Sunday. During the action, police tortured a citizen allegedly involved in electricity theft when he refused to go with the police.

## Special anti-polio campaign kicks off in Killa Abdullah, Chaman & six UCs of Pishin today

QUETTA: The special anti-polio campaign is scheduled to start in Killa Abdullah and Chaman districts and six union councils of Pishin district from today (Monday).

According to the Emergency Operation Center for Polio Eradication, the campaign is being launched to vaccinate over 170,000 children below five years of age during the campaign.

The EOC sources said

that whole districts of Killa Abdullah and Chaman while six union councils of Pishin district would be covered in the special campaign that would remain continued for seven days.

In all 449 mobile teams along with other fix and transit points teams have been formed for the special campaign.

Moreover, a full-fledged countrywide anti-polio campaign is also due to be started all over the province from October 2,

2023. The necessary arrangements are being made for the campaign. During the campaign, around 2.6 million children would be administered the anti-polio vaccine.

In addition to the anti-polio vaccine, the Vitamin A drops would also be administered to the children, the EOC sources informed.

This national campaign would also remain continued for seven days after starting on October 2.



HUB: Members of Sikh Community protesting against killing of Hardeep Singh in front of Lasbella Press Club.